

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY
Room 2521, Department of Justice Building
Washington 25, D. C.

ICIS-P17/419

April 15, 1959

Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

By memorandum dated September 30, 1958, the Executive Secretary, National Security Council, forwarded to the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies the Presidential Directive, dated September 23, 1958, entitled "Basic Policy Governing the Release of Classified Defense Information to Foreign Governments". As noted in that memorandum, the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security has been designated to report annually to the NSC on the implementation of the Directive.

Accordingly, each Agency is requested to furnish ICIS the following information wherever applicable to its operation.

1. An indication of any problems arising because of the requirements that disclosure must be consistent with United States defense interests and foreign policy, must be consistent with the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 as amended, or other special procedures, and must be limited to information necessary for the purpose for which made.

2. With respect to classified non-military defense information, what action is taken to insure that in each instance of a proposed disclosure the releasing officer is in possession of the information required to make a determination as to satisfaction of the conditions prescribed?

3. An indication of the difficulties encountered when seeking agreements from foreign governments designed to assure the United States Government that such foreign governments would afford the information substantially the same degree of protection afforded by the United States, not to release the information to another government without the approval of the United States, not to use the information for other than the purpose for which furnished and to respect any private rights such as patents, copyrights or trade secrets. With regard to the release of classified non-military defense information, to what extent has it been necessary to exercise the waiver because of the absence of such agreements? Where agreements have been obtained from foreign recipients, indicate whether the required agreements were obtained (a) "generally" or "in the particular case" and (b) orally or in writing.

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4. To what extent are (a) security assurances obtained on original recipients, (b) security checks made in lieu thereof and (c) the requirements of (a) and/or (b) waived?

5. To what extent have security checks on original recipients disclosed significant derogatory information? What action has been taken in such instances?

6. It is requested that the ICIS be furnished a copy of all regulations issued by the Agency in implementing this Directive. In addition, the ICIS desires a statement as to whether the Directive has in any way impaired the advantageous disclosure of classified defense information to foreign governments.

7. Based on available records or estimates, information as to the volume of releases of classified defense information made to foreign governments and international organizations in the respective categories of TOP SECRET, SECRET and CONFIDENTIAL.

It is requested that the above-described information be furnished to the ICIS by August 15, 1959, so that this Committee can make its report to the NSC.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. Walter Yeagley
Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee
on Internal Security

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